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Item 7 (g)
Coordination, programme and other questions:
Tobacco or health

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-President of the Council, Luis Alfonso de Alba (Mexico), on the basis of informal consultations

United Nations system-wide coherence on tobacco control

The Economic and Social Council,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on the Ad Hoc Inter-Agency Task Force on Tobacco Control,[1] emphasizing the need to further strengthen multisectoral and inter-agency responses for the full implementation of the World Health Organization Framework Convention on Tobacco Control[2] as appropriate,

Recognizing the adverse impact of tobacco use on public health, as well as its social, economic and environmental consequences, including for efforts towards poverty eradication,

Considering the impact of non-communicable diseases related to tobacco use as a global epidemic, and recognizing that substantially reducing tobacco consumption is an important contribution to reducing non-communicable diseases and can have considerable health benefits for individuals and countries,

Acknowledging that the work of the Task Force should be consistent with system-wide coherence approaches to ensure that the United Nations system is able to deliver in a strategic and coordinated manner at the country level in support of the implementation of the Framework Convention, where appropriate, in alignment with national priorities,

Recalling the obligation of Member States parties to the Framework Convention to set up comprehensive, multisectoral national control strategies, plans and programmes, with support from the Framework Convention secretariat, upon request,

Welcoming the Political Declaration of the High-level Meeting of the General Assembly on the Prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases, adopted on 19 September 2011,[3] and recalling the first Global Ministerial Conference on

[1] E/2012/70.
[2] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2302, No. 41032.
[3] General Assembly resolution 66/2, annex.

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Healthy Lifestyles and Non-communicable Disease Control, organized by the Russian Federation and the World Health Organization in Moscow on 28 and 29 April 2011,

Welcoming the joint letter sent by the Director General of the World Health Organization and the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme to United Nations country teams in March 2012 to support country-level work on non-communicable diseases in a coordinated manner,

Recognizing the leading role of the World Health Organization as the primary specialized agency for health, including its roles and functions with regard to health policy within its mandate, in particular through its important work within the context of tobacco control and in the spirit on the "whole-of-WHO" working approach, and reaffirming its leadership and coordination role in promoting and monitoring global action against non-communicable diseases in relation to the work of other relevant United Nations agencies, development banks and other regional and international organizations in addressing non-communicable diseases in a coordinated manner,

Recognizing the fundamental conflict of interest between the tobacco industry and public health, including in the work of the United Nations,

1. *Encourages* the Ad Hoc Inter-Agency Task Force to promote effective tobacco control policies and assistance mechanisms at the national level, including through the integration of the World Health Organization Framework Convention on Tobacco Control[2] implementation efforts within the United Nations Development Assistance Frameworks, where appropriate, in order to promote coordinated and complementary work among funds, programmes and specialized agencies;

2. *Invites* all members of the Task Force and other United Nations funds, programmes and specialized agencies to contribute, as appropriate, to the goals of the Framework Convention, including through multisectoral assistance, public outreach and communication, in particular in the context of the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in close collaboration with the Director General of the World Health Organization, to further integrate the aims of the Convention within the activities undertaken in the context of the implementation of the Political Declaration of the High-level Meeting of the General Assembly on the Prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases,[3] in view of the fact that tobacco is itself one of the main risk factors for the most prominent non-communicable diseases, while also being associated with other risk factors;

4. *Also requests* the Secretary-General, in coordination with the Director General of the World Health Organization, to convene annual meetings of the Task Force;

5. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to include in his report to the Council at its substantive session of 2013 options to effectively monitor the work of the Task Force and the integration of the Framework Convention implementation efforts within the United Nations Development Assistance Frameworks, where appropriate, in order to promote coordinated and complementary work among funds, programmes and specialized agencies.